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***NEWS From:***

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## **Congressman Mike Honda**

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## **Rep. Honda Congratulates Arts Competition Winner, Wendy Tsai, in Congress**

WASHINGTON, June 25, 2003 — This week, Rep. Mike Honda (D-San Jose) congratulated San Jose native Wendy Tsai as the “Artistic Discovery” winner for California’s 15th District arts competition. Her first-place watercolor, entitled “Discovery”, will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol through May 2004.

“Arts education is an important part of the development of our nation’s youth that is too often overlooked,” said **Rep. Honda**. “ ‘An Artistic Discovery’ is one of the ways in which Congress is reminded of the importance of the arts in our culture, and it is a great opportunity to see firsthand the artistic brilliance found among the youth of our nation. My hope is that Wendy and other young artists continue expressing themselves in creative ways.”

Ms. Tsai draws inspiration for her work from her family, as well as her travels in the country of Taiwan. A student at the **Harker School in San Jose**, Wendy hopes to study at Cornell University and eventually put her talents to work as a professional architect.

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony honoring the contest winners, Wendy and her family were taken on a congressional tour of the U.S. Capitol. On the tour Wendy was able to enjoy the work of other great artists whose artwork graces the walls of the Capitol.

A photo of Wendy Tsai, Rep. Honda, and her winning art is available